Serial No.09/868,248

Docket No. 449122007200

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-12 are pending. Claim 1 stands rejected. Claims 2-5 and 7-9 are

objected to. Claim 10 is allowed. Claims 11 and 12 have been added to round out the scope of

the invention.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The Examiner asserts that

claim 1 is incomplete for omitting essential steps. Applicant traverses this rejection. Applicant

has amended claim 1 in such a way as to render this rejection moot. Claim 1 is now in condition

for allowance.

Applicant has amended claims 2, 4, 5 and 7 to improve their grammatical syntax in light

of the amendments to claim 1. Applicant has respectfully maintained claims 2-5 and 7-9 in

dependent form due to the allowability of amended claim 1.

All of the pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Applicant solicits an

early action allowing claims 1-5 and 7-12.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and

Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions

for any required relief, including extensions of time, and authorizes the Commissioner to charge

the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to

Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing our Docket No. 449122007200.

Dated: January 4, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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